

# Budget Takes Central Schemes to 33

### 12.3% rise in cumulative budgetary allocation to ₹3.81 lakh crore

Yogima Seth Sharma & Kirtika Suneja

**New Delhi:** The budget has increased the number of centrally sponsored schemes to 33 from 31 now, adding three new schemes while doing away with one old scheme and replacing one with a new scheme.

The exercise has resulted in a jump of 12.3% in cumulative budgetary al-

location for centrally sponsored schemes (CSS) to ₹3.81 lakh crore in 2021-22 from ₹3.39 lakh crore budgeted in 2020-21. However, the allocation for the next fiscal is slightly lower than the revised estimates for 2020-21 of ₹3.87 lakh crore after a substantial increase of ₹40,000 crore was made to the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee scheme amid the pandemic.

The new schemes proposed to be added under CSS in the next fiscal include Mission Shakti for protection and empowerment of women with an allocation of ₹3,109 crore, Rashtriya Pashudhan Vikas Yojana for cattle and livestock development (₹1,177.04 crore), Mission Vatsalya for protection and welfare of children (₹900 crore), and Saksham Angwanwa-

di and Poshan 2.0 to strengthen nutritional content, delivery, outreach, and outcome, with an allocation of ₹20,105 crore. Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 will replace the umbrella Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) scheme.

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in the revised estimates. The government has also done away with the ₹1,805-crore White Revolution scheme for the dairy sector.

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"On the recommendation of the Fifteenth Finance Commission, we have undertaken a detailed exercise to rationalise centrally sponsored schemes. This will enable consolidation of outlays for better impact," Sitharaman said in her budget speech.

As part of the ongoing rationalisation exercise, the government has also given flexibility to states to administer the related schemes in line with state-specific requirements.

The Fifteenth Finance Commission has suggested the government fix up a threshold amount of annual appropriation below which the funding for a CSS may be stopped. "Below the stipulated threshold, the administrative ministry should justify the need for the continuation of the scheme," the commission said.

*Important for K. K. and*

*follow up in the respective areas and start early - get core budgets started + reviewed soon*

- 1) *Sec-Planng pt take the lead.*
- 2) *One budget share be budgetted -*
- 3) *Core Utilization centralised be sent at*
- 4) *New/ additional projects be made + sent to Govt for 'Early Sided Approval'*

*Sharma:*

*Sec-Planng pt take the lead*

*U. S. 3/2/2021*

*take required action C & other sec- for info or report action*

*& Prepare for a Virtual/ Review Early March*

*OSD U. S. and*